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October 8, 2013

California Department of Water Resources Division of Integrated Regional Water Management Financial Assistance Branch Post Office Box 942836 Sacramento, CA 94236 Attn: Keith Wallace

Dear Mr. Wallace:

On behalf of the Regional Water Management Group participants in the Tulare Lake Basin Portion of Kern County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (Kern IRWM Plan), I thank you for the recommendation for 100% funding of our Region's Round 2 Implementation Grant application. This application, submitted under the aegis of Plan participant Tehachapi-Cummings County Water District, represents the first time our Region has applied for and received funding under the IRWM Program.

As Kern County's Fifth District Supervisor, I wholeheartedly support DWR's recommendation, and strongly urge DWR to maintain the full funding of the Kern Region. The suite of five projects in this application, which include water use efficiency, water quality, flood management and infrastructure upgrades as well as attendant benefits to local Disadvantaged Communities, will provide tremendous value to our Region, and will also accrue to the Tulare Lake Hydrologic Region. In fact, 60% of the grant will fund projects for multiple disadvantaged communities in the Region. A funding award of less than 100% will make it difficult for some agencies to implement their projects and achieve the desired benefits.

Once again, thank you for the funding recommendation. I look forward to working with DWR to implement the projects contained in the Round 2 Implementation Grant application and to continuing efforts to promote IRWM Planning in the Kern region.

Leticia Perez

Kern County Supervisor

5th District

Sincerely